

# OVER HERE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF U. S. ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL, NO. 3.

Volume I.

Rahway, December 27, 1918.

No. 5.

## President Supports Disabled Fighters

### Says Restoring of Wounded Men Is Solemn Obligation ---Help Every Man

President Wilson, in a letter to the Federal Board for Vocational Education, calls attention to the fact that the Government stands squarely back of its disabled fighting men. The President says that the Government's great program of rehabilitation which is being carried out fully and generously, "is merely the payment of a draft of honor which the United States of America accepted when it selected these men."

The intense efforts of the Government properly to care for the disabled soldier and sailor are emphasized by the President's letter. In these days when peace negotiations and grave problems of readjustment of all business are upper most in the minds of most men, the President says, "this Nation has no more solemn obligation than healing the hurts of our wounded and restoring our disabled men to civil life and opportunity."

According to estimates made since the announcement of the total American overseas casualties, there are more than 200,000 disabled men under treatment in the hospitals in this country and overseas. Of this number, it is probable that more than one-fourth have been disabled by disease. Contrary to the general idea of the casualty list, only a very small percentage of the total have suffered disabilities which resulted in the amputation of limbs.

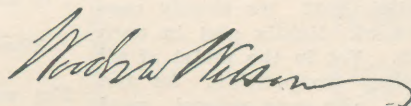
It is not merely the men who have lost arms or legs that the Government is offering to retrain and restore to self-supporting activity, but the Federal Board offers its aid to every man, regardless of his disability, who is entitled to Government compensation. The Board realizes that the many thousands of men who are suffering from the effects of shell shock, gassing, shrapnel and gun shot wounds which weaken their systems, tuberculosis, bronchitis, heart and nervous diseases, all may be unable to re-enter their former occupations. To all these men, the same as those with more evident handicaps, the Federal Board is extending the opportunity to be re-established in civilian life.

The cases of several thousand of the men who have been discharged by the Surgeon General have already been considered by the Federal Board. As many others are being sent from the incoming ships to the hospitals throughout the country, the

(Continued on page three.)

## President's Message On Healing the Wounded

"This Nation has no more solemn obligation than healing the hurts of our wounded and restoring our disabled men to civil life and opportunity. The Government recognizes this, and the fulfillment of the obligation is going forward fully and generously. The medical divisions of the War and Navy Departments are rendering all aid that skill and science make possible the Federal Board for Vocational Education is commanded by law to develop and adapt the remaining capabilities of each man so that he may again take his place in the ranks of our great civilian army. The cooperation and interest of our citizens is essential to this programme of duty, justice, and humanity. It is not a charity. It is merely the payment of a draft of honor which the United States of America accepted when it selected these men, and took them in their health and strength to fight the battles of the Nation. They have fought the good fight; they have kept the faith, and they have won. Now we keep faith with them, and every citizen is endorser on the general obligation."



From a Letter Written to the Director of the Federal Board for Vocational Education

## NCO Committee Announces Jazz Music For Dancers

Roll call at 5:45 on the morning of January 12 is going to be an extremely weak affair. The boys may be present, of course, but their minds will be wandering and they may even be a bit fatigued, for that will be the morning after the Military Ball to be given at the Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, by the Non-Commissioned Officers' Club, of this hospital.

One of the secrets revealed during the past week was that the Robert Treat Jazz Orchestra will be on the job officially from 9 p. m. to 2 a. m.,—and later, if the dancers express the desire. In the world of jazz, this particular orchestra is the 1920 model with all modern improvements and the longer it plays the better it gets.

(Continued on Page Five.)

Corporal William N. Mansfield, a patient at this hospital, has accepted the position of accountant in the Red Cross House. He is quartered in the office of the Field Director.

## Care of Wounded Is First; Then Consider Releases

So numerous have been the request of Detachment men for discharge from the service and so great are the demands being made upon the Medical Corps in caring for wounded men, that the Commanding Officer has deemed it necessary to issue a hospital memorandum stating that discharge applications cannot be acted upon at this time. The memorandum, which was announced by the Acting Adjutant in behalf of the Commanding Officer, follows:

"The Commanding Officer is in receipt of numerous applications from members of the detachment for immediate release from the service. Because of the fact that the detachment is short of men, and that the men sick in hospital must be cared for, it is not possible to act on these applications at this time.

"All applications are on file and will be acted on when the exigencies of the service permit."

## Christmas In Camp Made Happy For All

### Organizations Entertain and Offer Gifts to All With- in the Post

Celebration of the Christmas season, at General Hospital No. 3, has been a great success to date and promises to continue along that strain until the New Year has been ushered in. While a large number of men had been granted passes in order that they might spend the day at home, enough remained to make the season here a jovial one.

Christmas parties in the various houses established for the entertainment of the men, occupied many nights in advance of the 25th. The Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A., the Jewish Welfare Board and the K. of C. took advantage of every opportunity to get the men together and give the various organizations from nearby towns the chance of giving gift boxes to the men in uniform. In between the food courses and the receiving of gifts, there were various entertainment programs of singing, reading and dancing; but the Christmas tree features occupied an important place in the regard of the men, just as they did in the plans of those who prepared the programs.

All during the week, the women from nearby towns have been driving here bearing gifts for distribution under the auspices of the Mercy Committee of New Jersey. Each local chapter decided upon its quota of gifts according to its membership.

The Christmas Day menu is such an excellent one that it should be known to all. Here is Lieutenant Fraser's offering for the day:

Cream of tomato soup, olives, celery, roast turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, buttered peas, asparagus salad, mayonnaise, plum pudding, sterling sauce, vanilla ice cream, mixed nuts, assorted fruit, coffee, cigars, cigarettes.

### WE THANK YOU.

OVER HERE acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a well pointed paper-file, donated by Miss Norma M. Stimpson, of Irvington, N. J. Apparently Miss Stimpson felt a deep sorrow for the editorial staff, when, on her recent visit to this office she saw a huge spike being used as a hook upon which to impale the editorials and other pieces of copy which go into the paper. The gift is more than appreciated—and we hope we have more company.

Now that Christmas is over, let's all plan a Happy New Year.



## Adding Machines Are Used In Curing Wounded Arms

Patient-pupils attending the Commercial Department at the school are having the benefit of two new Dalton adding, listing and calculating machines which have been supplied through the generosity of J. W. Fursman, of Newark, district representative in New Jersey for the Dalton company. They have been loaned for the duration of the reconstruction period.

In explaining the use of the machines, it was stated by Corporal Bach, who is in charge of the Commercial Department, that they have great therapeutic value and that their use helps in restoring an injured arm or hand to normal condition. Operating the keys exercises a curative effect upon the fingers, while the arm is benefited by working the lever.

### HIS SERVICE RECORD.

It requires something unusual to arouse the interest of those stationed at General Hospital so we offer, as an interesting bit of information, the record of William B. Lewis, of Ward 31, who at the age of 22 has seen more than four years of hard service in the war.

Lewis left his home in New York in 1913 on a sailing ship bound for Australia. He was there the following August and enlisted with the Australian forces the day Great Britain declared war on Germany. Within a few weeks his organization landed in Egypt and went through a strenuous campaign, after which they were transferred to the Dardanelles, making the landing April 25, 1915. After three and a half months' service he was wounded and removed to a hospital on Lemnos Island. Upon being discharged, he was transferred to the 27th Battalion and was sent to France in time to participate in the Somme Battle. He was wounded twice and gassed on December 5, 1917, was discharged in England. Although not fit for line duty he managed to enter the flying service of the American army as an observer and again served on the Somme front. He found opportunity to use a machine gun while serving as an observer and has to his credit two enemy machines, a Gotha and an Albatross. The effects of the previous gassing began to tell and he was invalided home, arriving at this hospital November 7.

### HEARD IN RED CROSS HOUSE.

Knox (Writing to the girl in France)—Say, Quinn, what's the French for camouflage?



It Was a Merry Christmas



Officers of U. S. Army General Hospital No. 3

### K. C.

All local records for beautiful chorus girls, talented leading ladies, novelty costumes and enthusiastic audiences suffered a severe shock last Friday, when the well known "Elizabeth Review" played a return engagement at the K. C. House. A number of new names were to be found on the program, and each seemed to add some feature which helped make the production a worthy rival of the Follies.

From the time Walking Delegate Keon met the show at the gate and got the girls past the guard, until Jimmy Magee kicked the last Detachment man out of the K. C. House and turned out the lights, it was a most extraordinary night. Miss Nevins and Miss Price were in fine voice and the chorus of vampire girls, Southern girls, holiday girls and Peaches gave excellent support. There seemed to be a number of "sister acts" hidden away in the chours; for instance, the Lepore sisters, the Billis sisters and the Loyd sisters. Miss Anna Mae Thompson scored a great hit with her Spanish dance.

It doesn't seem quite fair to Fred Sleckman, who organized the show and whose lively singing and dancing are essential, that we should pass over his work lightly and in such brief form. Yet in the midst of all the feminine competition, he and John Laven, who sang several good songs, may rest assured that their work was appreciated.

The show was brought here under the auspices of Elizabeth Council of the Knights of Columbus.

On Saturday night the ladies who are associated with the K. of C., of Jersey City, came here with entertainment and a big supply of well-laden Christmas stockings. They were accompanied by Mr. Mason, "the original Santa Claus," known as the man who requires no makeup.

The Daughters of Isabella, of Perth Amboy, entertained the men Sunday night, and supplied them with smokes, candy, fruit and everything that goes with a Christmas tree. They also rendered an excellent program of music and recitations.

At all the functions Secretary Gates has presided and has extended Christmas greetings to the boys.

A burlesque street fair was held at Nurses' Quarters last Friday night, for the purpose of raising funds to buy "Maud" a new wind and storm proof top. "Maud" is the nurses' flivver, and judging from reports of the carnival, she will have an elegant top piece for the winter season.

### KISMET!

I've knitted him helmets and sweaters and gloves  
I've knitted him wristlets and socks,  
I've packed them all neatly and sent them away  
In a nicely named, well addressed box.

I've prayed and implored him to try and keep well,  
I've begged of him not to be shot—  
Now with all these reminders, I'm sure of one thing—  
He is thinking of me, is he not?

I've sent him tobacco and good magazines,  
I've kept him supplied with the best  
Of late printed fiction and candy and stuff,  
As my bills at the store all attest.  
I've waited and watched for a letter from him  
Which would mention the things I forgot—  
Now with all of this thought, I am sure of one thing—  
He is thinking of me, is he not?

I've kidded myself by believing these things—  
Though I've known all the while they're not true—  
I'm sure that he falls for the first bunch of fluff,  
Be her eyes black or gray, brown or blue;  
He's probably handing the same line of talk  
To the girl who is there on the spot—  
So I'll answer the question that I ask myself,  
Is he thinking of me? He is not.

—MABEL PATRICIA.

### RED CROSS.

Three 'phone booths have been installed in the Red Cross House. They are doing big business, too.

The War Hospital Entertainment gave a splendid performance at the Red Cross House, Thursday night.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America brought a 22-piece orchestra here, Monday night, as well as a first class minstrel troupe.

The Montclair Camp Committee gave one of its fine programs at the Red Cross House on the evening of December 20. The program included: Miss Jane Hanks, soprano; Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Farmer, character songs and recitations; "The Christmas Burglar;" Miss Gates and Miss McKeag, society dances; Miss Margaret Moser, recitations; "Peace Manoeuvres," the Montclair Players.

## Rabbi Reichert In Charge Of J. W. B. Activities Here

Rabbi Isidor Reichert, field representative of the J. W. B., has come here to stay. Mr. Gates has extended to him the courtesy of the K. of C., so characteristic of all the K. of C.'s throughout the union, and as a result, the Rev. Gentleman finds himself quite at home in its hut. The Rabbi is planning to divide his activities among all the organizations at the Hospital, providing entertainments, refreshments and smokes for the men, whenever and wherever an opportunity will be offered to him. A special feature will be the holding of religious services for the Jewish boys at the chapel every Friday evening. The Rabbi is very appreciative of the cordial reception given him by the officers and men of this post, and he has no doubt that his stay will be a pleasant one.

### Y. M. C. A.

The new building continues to be a great attraction notwithstanding the fact that as yet no paths or driveways have been made other than those worn by the feet of those who visit the building.

On Friday night a double attraction: At 6:30 there will be movies, "Love Letters," by Dorothy Dalton. At 8:00 o'clock a Holiday Party will be given for the men in the post. Ten ladies from the surrounding towns have accepted an invitation to chaperone a party of young ladies. There will be refreshments and an orchestra so that those who wish may dance.

There will be no young ladies present except those invited by their chaperones but all the men of the post are cordially invited. The plan is to be tried out upon this occasion and if it proves a success other similar parties will follow.

Saturday night there will be a big basketball game between an outside team and the team representing the Hospital.

Sunday night at 7:30, a fine opportunity to hear a worth while address will be given when Judge Adrian Lyon will speak.

The Hospital basketball team will play the Recreation Five, of Plainfield, in the Y. M. C. A. court, Saturday night.

### ARRIVAL OF OFFICERS.

Major Harold D. Corbusier, first assistant to Chief of Surgical Service; Second Lieutenant Charles A. Brambaugh, S. C., Laboratory Service; Captain William Veeder, charge of inventory of Medical Property; Second Lieutenant Orren D. Chapman, S. C., temporary duty as Personnel Adjutant and Assistant Adjutant.

The following Officers, who have reported here for duty, have been assigned to the Surgical Service:

Capt. William C. Bryant, Capt. Thomas D. Buck, First Lieutenants Emanuel Stern, Charles N. Silman, Harry S. Bull, Ezra A. Jones and Robert F. Hyland.

Capt. Charles H. Loeber, Q. M. C., has assumed his duties as Quartermaster, relieving Second Lieutenant E. M. Crawford.



## President Supports Disabled Fighters

(Continued from Page One.)

fourteen District offices of the Board are getting in direct contact with them. Cases are being surveyed in a most thorough manner, not only by experts of the Federal Board, but each individual case is carefully considered by an employer, a representative of labor and a physician in the home district of the man. Every effort is being made to train and place each man in an occupation which is most suitable and in which he is most likely to be satisfied and successful.

Within the next few months it is expected that several thousands of disabled men will be taking training under jurisdiction of the Federal Board and at the expense of the government. Those who had been actually placed in training on December 10th were taking courses in a wide range of trades and professions, including twenty-seven different occupations. Industrial schools, colleges, offices and shops located throughout the country are being utilized so that most of the men are being trained close to their own homes. Thirty-one per cent. of the total now in training are taking commercial courses; seventeen per cent. are learning the various phases of agriculture, farm management, poultry raising, dairying, etc. Others are studying law, medicine, banking, and some are being trained in engineering, telegraphy, tailoring, window trimming and designing, accounting, store management, machine shop practice, meat inspection and traffic management.

### OFFICERS—NURSES BALL.

The important social event of New Year's eve at this Post will be the ball which is to be given under the combined auspices of the Graduate Nurses and the Officers. It will be held in the Auditorium of the new Y. M. C. A. building, which will be decorated for the occasion. The "patients' orchestra"—that illustrious trio which has been winning such fame, locally—has promised to officiate on this occasion, thereby making certain that the party will be a lively one.

The Committee in charge of the ball includes Capt. McCollum, Lieut. Fust and Miss Tripple. They are planning several surprise numbers for the evening.

## NCO Committee Announces Jazz Music for Dancers

(Continued from Page One.)

While only 400 people may attend the ball, it is announced that the sale of tickets is open to all, the policy of first-come, first-served having been adopted. Tickets are being sold by the committee members, Sergeant Maslon, Sergeant Davidson and Corporal Hruby, and Sergeants Hinkle and Cross.

The Commanding Officer has accepted an invitation to attend. Others to be asked are Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, and the heads of various departments.

The club members held a meeting Monday night and viewed a silver cup offered to the club by Sergeant Maxim A. Maximoff, in appreciation of his election to membership. It will be formally presented next Monday night.

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# "OVER HERE"

Official Publication of  
U. S. ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL, NO. 3

Published Every Friday

Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Upshur  
Commanding Officer

Lieutenant John F. Reilly, Chaplain, Advisor

Sergeant W. E. Conway, Editor

Private Edward S. Bessman, Advertising Manager

All copy for Over Here must be in the hands  
of the Editor not later than Saturday night of  
each week.

Friday, December 27, 1918.

## A NEW YEAR BEFORE US.

We are now in that comparatively quiet zone which always asserts itself after some great and intense struggle. The torrential stream has raced madly down the side of the hill and now flows quietly through the level field save now and then when it encounters a bend in the channel, where it gives forth a few whirls indicating controlled power.

It is not to be expected that the coming year will have for us anything to compare with the thrills, fears, hopes, sorrows or achievements of that most memorable 12-month period now drawing to a close. The world cannot distort itself beyond recognition on short notice. It must prepare and practice for its orgies of bloodshed even as it must prepare for the annual reproduction of its beautiful flowers and forests. So it might be assumed with safety that we, who have lived through and participated in the history-making days of 1918 will never see its equal unless all chronological precedent is shattered and the Allied cause was fought in vain.

This, then, should be a time of serious resolutions and solemn purpose of perseverance. It is the beginning of a stretch of time which should see all who so desire discharged from the military and returned to civil life. The transition may seem almost as complete and, for a time, strange as were those early weeks spent in training camps. For many it will be an occasion for choosing a calling in life; for others a resumption of business relations which were dropped at the call to arms.

Those who are about to leave the service of the Government could well adopt the resolution, at this time, of studying and of applying, in the conduct of their own lives, the ideals and principles which brought America into the war. They might well consider the altruism which prompted America to cast aside all thoughts of personal gain and risk everything in a struggle against the enemies of righteousness.

They may be applied, with profit, to the conduct of the individual life, for, as nations come face to face with situations which involve a decision between right and wrong, so does the individual encounter problems, the

solving of which calls for a display of character, or the lack of it.

Whatever may be the resolutions of the soldier at this season, there should be no difficulty in carrying them out successfully. The man who has spent any time in service has learned that obedience and perseverance are the factors which convert the raw material into the finished product. In this case the individual may be both commander and company and through faithful adherence to his own firm resolutions, make the coming year one of achievement and, therefore, of happiness.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE DESIRE FOR LEARNING.

In the early days of our participation in the war it was remarked frequently and with visible authority that the training camps were arousing a tremendous enthusiasm for education among a great number of men who, hitherto, had evidenced little or no desire for mental attainment. Practically every center of training had its special schools for the enlightenment of those who through lack of opportunity or failure to apply themselves, had made little progress along educational lines.

Now, that the active carrying on of war work has come to a close, the question of education becomes even more important. Education and Americanization are so closely allied in our present scheme of participation in world affairs, that to neglect the intellectual development of our millions might well cause misunderstanding, not to say a complete dimming, of the ideals which caused us to send our youth on to the field of battle. We find pleasure in reminding ourselves that, at last, ours is one great and united nation, harmonious in ideals and purpose. Yet, we must not forget that, even as before the war, we are composed of a multitude of tongues, each unintelligible to a vast quantity of our national population and each translating the national thought according to the conveniences of its particular language.

If we are to gain national unity and acquire the full benefits of the struggle which has just drawn to a close, we must, as Secretary Lane says in his annual report, "be taught to read and write and **think** in one language; this is a primary condition to the growth which all nations expect of us and which we demand of ourselves."

The report offers a few startling statistical facts which should be of particular interest to the hundreds of people hereabouts who have taken such an active part in the battle for democracy:

"What should be said of a democracy which sends an army to preach democracy wherein there was drafted out of the first 2,000,000 men a total of 200,000 men who could not read their orders, or understand them when delivered, or read the letters sent them from home?

"What should be said of a democracy which permits tens of thousands of its native-born children to be taught American history

in a foreign language—the Declaration of Independence and Lincoln's Gettysburg Speech in German and other tongues?

"What should be said of a democracy which permits men and women to work in masses where they seldom or never hear a word of English spoken?

"Yet this is all true of the United States of America in this year of grace 1918, wherein was fought the second Battle of the Marne and the Battle of the Argonne Forest."

In this hospital, as in all other Reconstruction Hospitals, there is a very well equipped school for the special benefit of soldiers who need general or specific training in order to prepare them for their return to civil life. It is a new procedure in the conduct of war; its novelty is equalled only by its success. It is the duty of every soldier to investigate its offerings and learn in what manner he may be helped in his very serious obligation of being an American citizen.

\* \* \* \* \*

## WHEN I COME HOME.

When I come home, and leave behind  
Dark things I would not call to mind,  
I'll taste good ale and home-made bread,  
And see white sheets and pillows spread.  
And there is one who'll softly creep  
To kiss me 'neath the counterpane,  
And I shall be a boy again.

When I come home!

When I come home, from dark to light  
And tread the roadways long and white,  
And tramp the lanes I tramped of yore,  
And see the village greens once more,  
The tranquil farms, the meadows free,  
And friendly trees that nod to me,  
And hear the lark 'neath the sun,  
'Twill be good pay for what I've done  
When I come home!

—Leslie Coulson.

(Killed in Action, Oct. 7th, 1916.)

\* \* \* \* \*

"You gotta give it to me," said the soldier as he marched from one recreation house to another, accepting Christmas packages.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Officer who signs the passes should rejoice that Christmas comes but once a year.

\* \* \* \* \*

Discharged soldiers may keep the uniform and overcoat they are wearing at the time. It would be just our luck to be in swimming when the release papers are delivered.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our hatred of Turkey subsides remarkably when we gather round the Christmas table.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Non-Com. Club has come out flat-footed in favor of dancing. The vote will be counted January 11 at the Robert Treat Hotel.



# SCHOOL NOTES.

The following have been added to the staff of the School during the past week:

Sergeant Finkelhor, transferred from Camp Devens, instructor in English; Sergeant First Class George J. Altman, from Lakewood, N. J., instructor in physical training; Corporal William Hirsch, from Fort McPherson, instructor in drawing; Private H. Werner, from Camp Dix, instructor in mathematics; Mr. John W. Potter, instructor in mathematics in the Wilkesbarre, Pa., high school; Mr. Frank McKeown, of Passaic, N. J., instructor in physical training; Mr. Bertram Ball, of Plainfield, N. J., instructor in plaster moulding.

An electric driven potter's wheel, recently added to the equipment of the crafts shop, is furnishing interesting occupation to a number of patients. The wheel is the gift of Mrs. C. B. Tyler, of Plainfield, N. J., who gives instructions in its use each afternoon. A number of patients in the wards are also engaged in modelling clay. A kiln is to be set up for firing the product.

## “THE ARMLESS WONDER.”

Mr. Frank McKeown, of Passaic, N. J., has arrived at this hospital and has begun his work as an instructor in physical training. Mr. McKeown, with both arms off at the elbows, is a striking example of the possibilities of overcoming serious handicaps. Among his accomplishments are playing baseball, basketball, billiards, and bowling, without the use of artificial appliances. He is to give an exhibition soon at the Red Cross House.

## NEW AIDES ARRIVE.

Eighteen new Occupational Aides have arrived and have begun their duties at this hospital. Owing to crowded conditions here, they are living at Cross Trees Inn, Rahway, and commute to the hospital. The new arrivals are:

Margaret Freeman, Janet Barnes, Dorothy Williams, Ida Woodies, Irene Wren, Elizabeth Winn, Ada Tucker, Sara Webster, Ethel Stuart, Margaret Sanborn, Harriett Robeson, Mathilda Richman, Elizabeth Randall, Eleanor Marks, Rae Hippe, Carolyn Baker, Elizabeth Nedwill and Katherine Fletcher.

## GALES FROM GREEN GABLES.

The greatest privilege accorded the Aides occurred on the evening when Major Albee gathered together all divisions of the Educational Department and talked informally of the work of this hospital and our own part in it. Major Altman and Lieutenant Moore spoke regarding the complete correlation of our departments.

Have you been invited to Green Gables to tea? It would seem, from the pleasant times reported, that the Aides keep open house Sunday afternoons.

## MAY KEEP UNIFORMS.

The Secretary of War has informed the House Military Committee that the War Department has decided that all discharged soldiers may permanently retain the uniform and overcoat they wear when mustered out.

## AT POST NO. 3.

Guard—Halt! Who goes there?  
Newguy—Oh, I came only yesterday. You wouldn't know me.

# Entertaining Men In Camp Is Not Easy As It Seems; Enthusiasm Runs So High That Men “Steal the Act”

Among all the societies, committees and other organizations which have sprung into existence for the purpose of offering relief or assistance or sympathy to those engaged in war work, there might well be one with the sole and honorable purpose of comforting the Performers Who Appear Before Soldier Audiences. Not that there is any room for complaint—any actor or actress or musician or reader will vote unanimously that the khaki-clad audience is the greatest and the most enthusiastic to be found—still it must be a trying situation for the entertainer to appear in camp.

Perhaps it is in the Y. M. C. A. house or the K. of C. house that the performance is to be given for the entertainment of the detachment men. Or it may be booked for the Red Cross house with an assured attendance of a thousand patients, officers and nurses. The soldiers always gather early for the show and spend the time before the performance, in getting the greatest possible volume of sound out of the player-piano. They are great for enthusiasm; they would rather hear Sousa in crescendo once than a dozen symphonic renditions of the meditation of Thais.

The appearance of the secretary of the organization with his opening announcement of the evening's program is always the signal for applause. The boys have grown well acquainted with him during the months in which he has been providing them with entertainment and they interrupt him with shouts of approval and bid him farewell by calling him “Daddy” or “Colonel.”

Then comes the opening number, “Oh, That We Two Were Maying,” by Mlle. Smith, of New York, late of Tulsa. The wearers of the olive drab greet the effort with orderly applause and send a delegate to ask “Daddy” if “this bunch brought any cake with them tonight.”

Selection by the orchestra who wrinkles his brow in surprise when his audience whistles the tune with him.

Then out upon the stage comes the hit of the evening—the big number, even though it was not so intended. It consists of two demure, yet confident, maidens, draped in pink gowns and wearing home made Pickfordian curls over the left shoulder. The show is on and the preliminary applause indicates that all records are about to be broken.

Encouraged by the enthusiastic reception, one of the Pink Sisters steps forward and announces, in a High C voice, that “even though we are engaged in the conflict and it is perfectly terrible about the war, we still are able to smile so we will now sing for you a song called ‘Smiles.’”

“Oh, la, la!” shouts a voice from the center of the hall—and the orchestra is obliged to repeat the vamp.

The verse is received quietly; the chorus produces the climax. The opening words of “There are Sma-i-i-les that make you Happy” are seized by several hundred strong, masculine voices and before the line is finished, the entertainers on the stage are serving as directors rather

than in the capacity in which they were engaged. Numerous encores are demanded and the girls are permitted to retire only after promising to sing again later in the evening.

Then comes that part of the evening dedicated to “Gunga Din.” Kipling's tribute to the water carrier may be a bit out of date, when the methods of the present war are considered, but his verse remains popular. Frequently the reader is a young man in civilian clothes who possesses a good speaking voice and apparently has been well trained in the art of public reading.

Several lines are rendered, generally, before it is evident that the audience is supplying a certain subdued cadence, indicating that the hearers are in complete harmony with the measured beat of the piece. The sound seems to come from the ground—the floor, perhaps—and gives evidence of being caused by the intermittent contact of the heel with pine boards. Dozens of voices assist the speaker. By the time the second verse is started, the accompaniment is in full swing:

O the uniformy he wore  
Wasn't nothin' muchbe fore  
And Bingo, Bingo, Bingo, Bingo,  
Bang!  
For a twisty piece o' rag  
An' a goatskin water bag  
Was all the Bingo, Bingo, Bingo,  
Bang. Hitchy koo!

'E carried me away  
To where a dooli lay  
An' a bullet come an' drilled the beggar clean. Lotta Pep!  
'E put me safe inside  
And just before 'e died:  
“Oh, La, La, your drink,” sez Gunga Din. Shake it up!

They never complain, these willing workers who journey here to entertain us. They are always jovial and good natured, even though they must experience queer emotions when they find their act being taken away from them. Nor would we have it any different even though it were in our power to change it. No city theater can collect such an audience, nor offer such reception to a performance.

Lieut. David M. P. Magee, Surgeon of Ward 7, has obtained his discharge from the service and has returned to his civil practice at Red Bank, N. J.

## IT'S A GAY LIFE.

Whenever fore-handed men are mentioned at the Red Cross House, the name of C. G. Culin, Jr., is mentioned—only in his case the word is spelled “four.” Mr. Culin, who spends most of the day behind the desk, has the reputation of being able to talk over the 'phone, sign for telegrams, direct visitors, open cigarette packages for the wounded, tell the exact minute when Mrs. Tyler will return, hand out unchecked parcels from behind the desk, and page a dozen patients, all at the same time.

What does he do with his spare time?

# \* \* \* \* \* \* PROMOTIONS IN \* THE DETACHMENT. \* \* \* \* \* \*

The following promotions in the Detachment, Medical Department, were announced December 20:

To be Sergeant First Class, Sergeant Harold A. Leigh.

To be Sergeants: Corporals Joseph E. Cleary, William E. Conway and James R. Tilford, and Private First Class Maxim A. Maximoff.

To be Corporals, Privates First Class Julius Gordon and Louis G. Karstendiek.

Sergeant Maximoff takes the place of Sergeant Nicholas Pavlow, who has received an honorable discharge.

## HULTS—PARKINS.

The marriage of Henry H. Hults, who is assisting in the property office at the school, and Miss Anne Parkins, of McKeesport, Pa., took place at Greensburg, Pa., December 9. Hults was on furlough at the time and neglected to pass along the news until he returned. He has gone to Pittsburgh in order to accompany his wife to New York, where she will live at 610 Riverside Drive.

Hults arrived at this hospital November 2 from France, where he served on the Picardy front with the 325th Infantry. His regiment was selected to represent the 82nd Division on May 9th, when King George reviewed American troops in London.

## DEATHS.

David Sault, a patient who was admitted to this hospital December 13, died December 20. He was a member of Company F, 103rd Ambulance Train. Private Sault lived in Philadelphia, and the body was sent there for burial.

The condolences of the Detachment are extended to Sergeant Joseph E. Cleary, of the Records office, on the loss of his father, who died suddenly December 20, at the Cleary home in New York. The funeral was held Sunday.

## DEATH OF MRS. ALPERS.

Mrs. Edward T. Alpers, wife of Sergeant Alpers, of the Medical Detachment, died after a brief illness. The condolences of OVER HERE are extended to Sergeant Alpers in his grief over the loss of his helpmate and companion.

Sergeant Collis Case, of Plainfield, N. J., died here, Saturday night, of influenza. He was stationed in a southern camp and had returned to his home on furlough when he was stricken. He was brought here for treatment. The body was taken to Plainfield, where a full military funeral was held on Tuesday afternoon. Lieutenant John F. Reilly, chaplain, officiated, and a detachment from the hospital attended.

## AMERICAN LIBRARY ASS'N.

A table filled with technical magazines is enjoying popularity at the technical library in the School.

The pamphlets on agriculture, poultry raising and other subjects have been indexed and filed, according to a color scheme which has been adopted.

The 'phone booth has been removed from the fiction library in the Red Cross House. In its place is an open 'phone arranged for the special convenience of wheel-chair patients.



## Plainfield Choir Sings At Hospital Midnight Mass

St. Mary's choir, of Plainfield, journeyed to the hospital Christmas eve and sang midnight mass for the patients, officers, nurses and detachment men who remained within the post for Christmas. Rosewig's mass in F was selected, together with the Christmas anthems, "And There Were Shepherds," "Adeste Fidelis" and "Oh Holy Night."

Lieut. John F. Reilly, chaplain, celebrated the mass and preached a splendid Christmas sermon to the congregation which packed the building. Miss Mary Smith was organist and leader of the choir. The soloists were Albert F. LaRock, bass; Miss Mary Donnelly, soprano, and Miss Eleanor McCarthy, alto. There was a chorus of twenty voices.

At the close of the mass the choir members were taken to the patients' mess hall by Capt. Schlindwein and offered refreshments.

The singers were transported both ways by the Montclair Motor Corps in charge of Lieutenant Rowan. Two ambulances and a station wagon were used in the work. Deep appreciation is felt for the choir's kindness in offering its services and also for the long hours of work put in by the Motor Corps in providing the necessary transportation.

### BASKETBALL LEAGUE.

A Basketball League is being formed among the men of the Detachment and there will be a representative team from each Detachment. Captain Spiegel, Commander of the Detachment, is taking a great interest in this athletic program, and has announced that a silver cup will be awarded the winning team. All who are anxious to try out for the teams are urged to hand in their names to any one of the following named Non-Commissioned Officers:

Barrack 1—Sergeant Hinkle.  
Barrack 2—Sergeant Haughawout.  
Barrack 3—Corporal Osoba.  
Barrack 4—Sergeant Maslon.  
Barrack 5—Sergeant Graham.

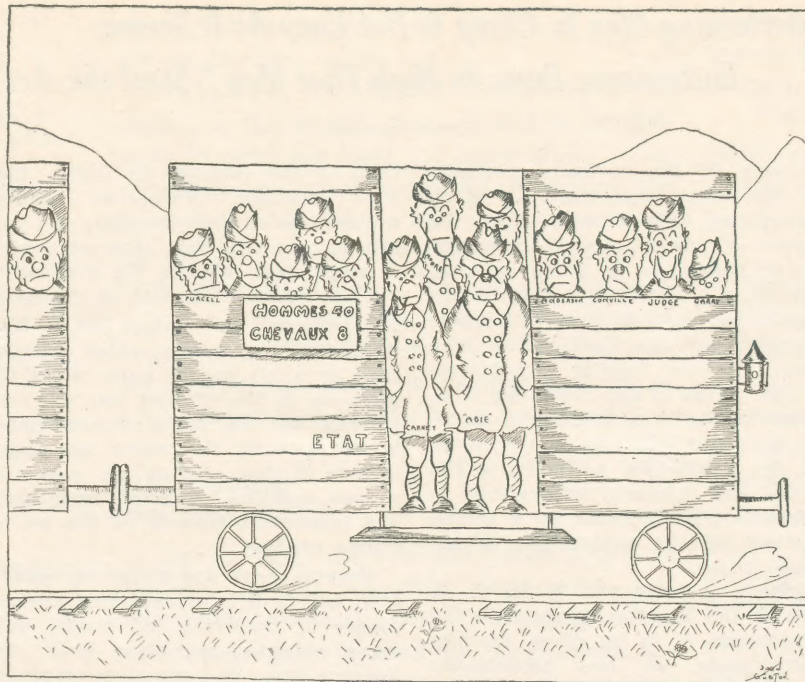
### GIFT TO MERCY HOUSE.

The little children attending Mrs. Bunn's School, Rahway, have sent a poinsettia to the Mercy House Canteen. The letter which accompanied the gift, stated that the children "went without their own Christmas treat, to give it to the soldiers instead." The plant occupies a prominent position on the cashier's desk.

Men in Wards 24 and 21 gathered in 21 Tuesday evening, and enjoyed a Christmas tree celebration in charge of Miss Twybell, the nurse. A large number of these men have just returned from overseas and are unable to go home for Christmas because of recent amputations, and other operations. The nurse "neglected" all her former friends this year and spent all her available cash on the men in the wards. And the investment was appreciated.

### IT'S A FAIR QUESTION.

Lieutenant Dovell would like to know who originated the expression, "Automobiling is a pleasure." Have you seen the car, boys? (Attention Lieutenant Sybenga.)



"OUR SEASON IN FRANCE"

Posed by Pursell, Carney, Moore, "Abie," Anderson, Conville, Judge, Garry, and others.

### BARRACK BUNK.

Ansel complains that he can never get a pass on the same day his white collar is white.

Pat Thornton has sent for his accordion. Life is not strenuous enough, he says, and since he has not the time to work on the coal pile, he is taking his second favorite form of exercise.

Sergeant Federman was, so to speak, unintentionally jostled by a broom which was, as it were, dropped in a precipitate manner by a party or parties as yet unidentified. The Sergeant has made no complaint, but we hope if he catches the perpetrator he runs him through the mangler at the laundry and has him accordion plaited or plaited accordingly.

Lance Corporal Fritchie, who has been appointed night ward inspector (including Nurses' Quarters), is about the only man in camp who hasn't made any kick about his discharge papers being delayed.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* IN CASE OF ARREST \*  
\* BLAME THIS ON THE Q. Ms. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Brogno has applied to the Penn R. R. for a job as train caller.

When Kezar arrived here he mistook the radiators for flower stands. (Note: He is from Io-way.)

Why is it that the more trucks we have in camp, the fewer there are available for service. (Note to Sgt. Keethler: Please don't blame this on us.—The Editor.)

Private Oppenheimer says that the more he sees of the hair-cuts issued at the Hospital Tonsorial Parlor, the more he believes in Darwin's theory.

### CLASS ROOM UTTERANCES.

"Fust" in the hearts of the Student Nurses is Bacteriology.

Bathing removes all skin and is very beneficial to the general health.

Tight clothing causes backbone and a state of chronic digestion.

David Lemburg was having his first day of drill and the Lieutenant was in charge. Lemburg listened to the officer's oft-repeated "left, right, left, right," until he could stand it no longer. Then he said, "What's the matter, Lieutenant, you change your mind so often?"

### WARD ROOMERS.

Delaney's health improves constantly. Two causes are named: (1) Holiday passes; (2) the publication of his picture in the Philly North American.

Longo was the most irritated man in France last year, during the cold and coalless winter. He had left a job as coal miner to join the Army, and when he thought of the tons he used to handle at home and then couldn't find any in France—Zowie!

Donley, of Manchester, N. H., is opposed to OVER HERE, as well as all other papers. He said if it had not been for the durned newspapers, Manchester never would have heard of the war.

Private Higgins, of Ward 30, was an undertaker at Mount Carmel, Pa., when he joined the Army. His friends say that all Germans looked like stiffs to Higgins.

"Butch" Mervine sprung a new one the other day. He said, "Them discharge papers can't come any too soon for me."

### SALVATION MARY.

I danced with lovely Geraldine,  
Philandered with Estella,  
And dallied on the primrose path  
With charming Isabella,  
But lo! of Master Cupid's snare  
Was still extremely wary,  
Until I crossed the sea to France  
And met Salvation Mary.

Her face was like an English rose  
Beneath the dark blue bonnet  
That bore the lettered army band,  
The only trimming on it.  
Of doughnuts she was prodigal,  
But of her favors chary,  
And every soldier fell in love  
With sweet Salvation Mary.

She served us smiling all day long,  
Was never cross or weary,  
And when she went the world became  
A desert dark and dreary.  
I'm mustered out of khaki now  
And trappings military,  
But still my heart is over there  
With dear Salvation Mary.

—MINNA IRVING.

### SERGEANT STACK RETURNS.

Sergeant Harry G. Stack, Medical Department, has returned from Yale, where he was taking a special course preparatory to being commissioned. The signing of the armistice caused a change in plans and he has returned to his duties at the laboratory.

In order to permit an inventory to be taken, the Medical and Quartermaster Supply depots will be closed from December 31 to January 9th, inclusive. Officers in wards and departments are directed to adjust their requisitions in advance of December 31, so they will have supplies while the depots are closed.

### GIRLS AND CAKE

The girls of the Social Workers' Club, of the Standard Aircraft Corporation, of Elizabeth, N. J., caused an unusually merry evening here on December 18, when they appeared at the K. C. House in an act, which according to our most prominent Faithful Feeders, should be termed "Free Eats." It was the first of the Christmas parties. There were a couple of dozen girls in the delightful number, which consisted mostly of strolling up and down the aisle and handing out large parcels containing cake, candy, smokes and the name of one of the girls. While no weddings have been reported, there are reasons for believing that new romances were started, especially since the girls insisted that they, themselves, made the cakes.

"Col." Gates, impressario of the K. C. House, was in fine form and made several speeches, which none of the boys heard owing to the preponderance of girls and cakes.

Sergeant Maslon won the gold cuff links which were awarded to the holder of the lucky number. He is using the links as an argument for early discharge from the Army in order that he may have opportunity to wear them.

Private First Class David Bernstein, of the dispensary, was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal, in a hospital order issued December 17.

### YE WILDE BEESTE.

Private Melkerson, of Barrack 1, had a wild encounter last Friday night, when, after a long struggle and with no weapon except a wood trap, he slew three Peromyscus Leucopus which had gathered in his squad room and were waiting to pounce upon their prey. One of them looked just like the brute that gnawed a hole in Private Randolph's O. D. coat.

Several hundred copies of "The Exhaust," published by the Raritan Arsenal, Metuchen, N. J., were left at the Red Cross House, Thursday, by Corporal Walter Joseph Waldron, assistant business manager, and Private Charles Ross Anthony, assistant editor. "The Exhaust" is one of the most interesting camp papers being published in this country and its distribution at the Red Cross House should provide interesting reading for the hundreds of wounded men who go there daily.

Small—Santa Claus didn't come down the chimney this Christmas.  
St. John—Why not?  
Small—He was afraid of the flue.



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When the boss man said write an ad for "Over Here" it struck me as a funny proposition.

Thirty bucks a month, with Liberty Bonds, Insurance, etc., (heavy on the Etc.), what chance would a guy have to "keep out" a little change to put in a bank?

The boss man has a "long head," however, for I can dope it out now. He figures when you birds are again in civilian life things will be coming your way and may be you will be looking for a safe place to put your money.

—The Ad Man.

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